NEW BOOKS.

A Rose of Courtlands Street. Weymer J. Mills's story of "Caroline of Courtlandt Street " (Harper & Brothers) is handsomely published. Illustrations in color and faintly impressed border designs give pleasure to the eye and to the imagination. The story is marked by a light and archaic manner. The scene opens in Perth Amboy, "East New Jersey's once proud capital," where there had been a bowling green in the days when "good, stolld Anne of England dowered St. Peter's with a silver communion service." That was Queen Anne's pious and generous way. Round about New York there is to-day more than one church that was marked by her with this distinction. It was common for a handsome prayer book to go along; and when the Revolution altered political conditions, patriotic custodians of these royal gifts edited the books of prayer, pasting in neat slips which directed the divine attention to the President of the United States instead of to the English Sovereign.

Rose Whitebush ("the Honorable Caroline Whitebush" comes first later, as the Germans say) leaned out of a "gray weather stained balcony" in the High street of Perth Amboy and "hummed a quaint, rollicking air." When Jepson Barker appeared below for the purpose of offering marriage he "put his arm about one of the old pilasters and leaned forward." The convenience of his attitude is not quite apparent, but that is no great matter. He was a dark young man of striking appearance. His mother, old Mme. Barker, was wont to say that Jepson favored her Holbein of the Earl of Perth-that passionately proud gentleman who demanded as many bobs and kowtows as his sad faced King.

Our heroine rejected him. Said she *For all the houses in Amboy, for all the ships that sail the Raritan, for all the jewels Capt. Kidd is reputed to have stored under the subterranean vaults of you Watson dwelling, I would not give you my little

Supposing Rose to have been 18 years old, this must have been in the year 1824. We wonder what the neighbors would have said if they had overheard her. It was no little thing to reject Jepson. His brilliant outlook upon life may be gathered from his own observations as he embraced the pilaster. "Our lands stretch half a mile up the river," he said to the fair maid in the balcony. "I brought Lord Mahoun's patent for you to see. In time all that part of Jersey mapped there will be mine. Marry me, and you shall laugh at those who treat you with scorn. I will make a lady of you-the finest lady in the land. The name of Barker will be the setting for your

But she threw away the name of Barker with lightness, and as though there had been no handsome territory attached. She became an actress, as her gifted mother had been before her. It may be guessed whether she had a glittering experience in the old Park Theatre, which, if it had endured, would have faced Mr. Mullet's present Post Office. It may be thought whether she irradiated Courtlandt street.

A handsome book, as we have said, and a story full of an archale and great vivacity. We notice that Rose speaks rapturously of "little old New York" at page 133. An interesting anticipation.

Tas Ocean Off Massachusetts.

A warmth of sentiment distinguishes Margaret Sherwood's story of "The Coming of the Tide" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). Poets by profession and innumerable lay persons gifted with the sentiment of poetry have addressed and celebrated the sea. Byron bade it roll on, signified his understanding of its depth and its color, and remarked that neither time nor the keels of ships produced or provoked wrinkles on its azure brow. When Frances Wilmot in this tale came to New England from the sunny and presumably interior South and caught her first glimpse of the ocean as she jolted her slow way with Andrew Lane, the stage driver, to the attractive public retreat known as the Emerson Inn, she exclaimed "Blue-and blue-and blue!" She added: "Why did no one ever tell me, or could no one tell?"

As we have indicated, Byron made mention of the color of the sea. Doubtless her inquiry involved a deeper meaning. At daybreak next morning she looked from her chamber window in the Emerson Inn. To the east "the mystery of wide ocean lay gray, expectant, under a sky of gray. As she watched," in dressing gown and slippers, "down the dull, tossing sea crept a ripple of gold, and the yellow rim of the sun rose at the edge of the world. Glimmering softly came the light; bright sparkles of dew and wet gossamer shone from the velvety green of the moorland, and a longer pathway of light led across the sea. The girl at the window was on her knees, and her dark head was bowed when the glory reached it and rested

A celebration of the sea. A story representing the delicate charms and the awful wonders of that vast expanse. Heredity as it has its manifestations in New England enters into the tale. Paul Warren supported the burdens that had been let down upon him by his ancestry. We are sure that he would have shaken them off if he had been able, for the best of us do not upport burdens willingly. Paul saved Frances from the designs of a madman. The madman took her to sea in a gale with the intention of making an end of her. "If we may not live together we must die together," he declared as the boat plunged and as he prepared to hoist extra sail when he should have been reefing. "Spring!" cried Paul Warren as he flashed alongside in a dory. Our heroine obeyed. The madman sprang after her. Paul Warren caught him and hurled him into the sea.

Was Paul Warren bound to go mad because he had killed somebody? No. The madman was washed safely ashore and did not die. To be sure, Paul's intent was the same whether the madman remained dead or alive. But Frances drew his distracted head to her bosom, and our opinion is that she dissipated his conscientious questionings and pains. A sensitive, fervid story. Certain New England notions involving pride of family are plainly shown

A Tale Worth While.

The reader will warm at the beginning to Mrs. Alfred Sidgwick's story of "The Professor's Legacy" (Henry Holt & Co.), where the friendly child, Rosamond Antonia Margarethe Elsler, confides to the equally friendly Dacre that she has drawn a map of Germany and made Würtemberg and Elsass so big that there is no room for Baden. Here is real human nature of the sort that we could most desire. A most agreeable picture arises before us of Dacre and the child who had carelessly crowded Baden out of her well intended map. We dare say that Germany, with Elsass fixed upon her borders, will feel secure as regards Baden. If the child had left out Southwest Africa the omission might not have been deemed uninstructive, or, from the point of view of the German economical eye, quite vapid and irrational

The story in other respects runs immediately in the direction of interest It a "situation," and it is to be said that Miss book, "England Under the Tudors," by

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is marked by admirable humor. It is lovely where Aunt Betty, herself a young woman, informs the rather strenuous professor that when Rosamund Antonia Margarethe grows up she can say that twice two are five if she pleases without the risk that any man with eyes will think the less of her. The Frau Doctor Betty Elsler has a fine imperturability founded with much reason upon her youth and good looks. Her exchanges of conversation with her brother-in-law, the professor, will hardly

be received with coldness by the reader. The story has more than mere humor or simple characterization to commend it. The reader will find a sharp access of interest at the point where Dacre marries Rosamund. Love came to Rosamund gradually. It was not the officiating minister who purveyed it. As for Christian Witt, we leave the reader to find out about him. One of the most capable and satisfying of

Old Straub's Counterfeits.

Mr. James Barnes tells good stories. They are virile, eventful, provided with plot. It is possible for him to be a little impatient of detail at times. In the opening part of his story "Outside the Law" (D. Appleton & Co.) we found it difficult to differentiate clearly the characters of importance who were grouping themselves for dinner. It came out all right. We got acquainted presently and found ourselves absorbed in Lorrimer's account of his amateur adventures in the imitation of old prints and of his discovery that old Straub, his assistant, had appropriated his methods and devoted them to the manufacture of some excellent counterfeit money of high denomination. The foreign look-ing man several tables along, who seemed to be interested in Lorrimer, certainly interested us. We wondered what he was up to: also what complication was to build itself upon the presumably spurious \$1,000 bill that old Straub had left behind him when he died suddenly-a bill that Lorrimer had found and stamped "counterfeit" and that may have been counterfeit, though the reader will not be at all sure of it before his eyes are opened and he is made wise in the skilful author's own good time. Far be it from us to make any premature revelations in such a case. We will only say that old Straub's \$1,000 bill interested us and that we had no disposition to drop the story until we had learned all about it. A readable and satisfactory tale.

A Good Story From Miss Van Vorst. Miss Marie Van Vorst has written very cleverly and charmingly the story of "Miss Desmond" (The Macmillan Company). The idea is ingenious and interesting. Miss fully alone, save for the story of Henry VIII.'s Desmond was a New England girl of no ex- many wives and the literary and romantic perience of what is called the world. In Switzerland she met Mr. Bedford, an Englishman somewhat famous for such experience. Mr. Bedford had been attentive to Lady Morges-Fair. His attentions to her had constituted a matter of some notoriety in London. Lady Morges-Fair and Miss Desmond were sisters. Miss Desmond was Hume, not even a Macaulay, but in their qualified to blush, and did blush at the humdrum way they try to set matters right. her sister and Mr. Bedford. Mr. Bedford became greatly interested in Miss Desmond when the two met in Switzerland. Here was

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Van Vorst has worked it out in an exceed- Mr. Arthur D. Innes (Methuen & Co.; ingly sensitive and effective manner. There | G. P. Putnam's Sons), part of a six volume is one small and yet poignant matter in this admirable story. Why will so clever a hand lend itself to the violence of splitting the infinitive? At page 12 we find "to understandingly observe." On the next page we find "to frankly say out." But a good It has very particularly pleased us.

The Tudors.

Until a very recent date historical teachers were more than willing to let the Tudor period in English history alone. There was plenty to be said about the older history down to Bosworth field and Richard III.; and even the eminent W. Stubbs was content to stop there. There was plenty more to be said about the Stuarts and Clarendon's "Great Rebellion" and all that has followed from that. But the Tudors were left carefully alone, save for the story of Henry VIII.'s side of Elizabeth's reign. The publication of state papers has changed the face of affairs somewhat, and into the path broken by Mr. Gairdner and Mr. Brewer the minor historians are crowding now. No less than three Tudor histories have come to us at once. There is no Hallam among them, no things that had come to her ears concerning and perhaps some day some one will come with the genius to put a great dynasty straight among English speaking men. First, we must touch on a very respectable

set edited by Prof. C. W. C. Oman. The author is fully awake to the fact that the political, social and economic changes in England during the period were even more important than religious matters and than the efflorescence of literature, and he shows this in his sober narrative. This may not be brilliant but it sticks close to the latest ascertained facts and will serve as a guide through a period that has been made needlessly complicated. There is an overabundance, perhaps, of the personal affairs of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, but their real meaning in English history is shown

clearly Prof. A. F. Pollard's "Henry VIII.," first published in an expensive illustrated edition, is now issued in available form by Longmans, Green & Co. Its chief merit is that it puts to one side the popular figure of a matrimonial Bluebeard, and shows Henry's merits as a politician, his deserts in the matter of the Reformation, and England's development and the importance of his reign on subsequent English history. Prof. Pollard may be no eagle, but his book is a thorough and more than respectable

With Mr. Martin Hume's "The Wives of Henry VIII." (McClure, Phillips & Co.) we come again to the traditional standpoint. It is based largely on Spanish records, and so will have a permanent value until Englishmen get over their awe for a

Continued on Eighth Page.

has a world of interest and amusement. It has five stories and poems illustrated in colors. Among the writers are Booth Tarkington, Bliss Carman, Harry Leon Wilson, and F. J. Stimson ("J. S. of Dale"). Among the artists are Ch. Weber-Ditzler, Charles S. Chapman, Laurence Mazzanovich, A. B. Wenzell, Harrison Fisher, Arthur Becher, and de Thulstrup. All this is in the

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